

SCR 61 (Evans)

January 2012 – Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

(As introduced January 24, 2012)

THE GOAL

SCR 61 encourages prompt access to cervical cancer preventive services, including pap tests and HPV vaccinations.

BACKGROUND

Cervical cancer was once one of the most common causes of cancer death for American women. In California it is the 12th most common cancer diagnosed among women and the seventh most common cancer among the Latina and Vietnamese populations.

Cervical cancer is the second most common form of cancer worldwide and is responsible for more than 4,000 deaths in the United States. Approximately 1,400 California women are diagnosed with cervical cancer yearly and more than 400 die from this disease.

Cervical cancer is preventable through regular screenings and human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination. According to the American Cancer Society's California Cancer Facts and Figures 2012 report, the vaccine has the potential to prevent up to 70 percent of cervical cancer cases and deaths in California each year.

Mortality is associated with being diagnosed at a later stage, which often stems from poor access to preventive services and a lack of understanding about following up for care after an abnormal finding.

THIS BILL

SCR 61 recognizes January 2012 as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and encourages prompt access to preventive services and medical care in order to overcome barriers to care and treatment of cervical cancer.

Access to preventive measure, including regular Pap tests and the HPV vaccination, are critical to perpetuating the continual decrease of the incidence of cervical cancer in women.

SUPPORT

Sponsor:
California Medical Association
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

OPPOSITION

Unknown

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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